

REMARKS

Claims 1-40, 43, 46, 49, 52, 55, 58, 61, 64-80 are pending in this reissue application. Claims 41, 42, 44, 45, 47, 48, 50, 51, 53, 54, 56, 57, 59, 60, 62 and 63 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and will not be discussed further. Claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26, 31, 36, 43, 46, 49, 52, 55, 58, 61, and 64-66 have been amended to define more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention. Claims 67-80 have been added to assure Applicant a fuller measure of protection of the scope to which he deems himself entitled. Claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26, 31, 36, 65, 66, 67 and 74 are in independent form.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, 13-16, 18-21, 23-26, 28-31, 33-36, 38-40, 65 and 66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Patent Publication JP-62-221546 A (*Hideki et al.*), and claims 2, 7, 12, 17, 22, 27, 32, 37, 43, 46, 49, 52, 55, 58, 61 and 64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hideki et al.* in view of U.S. Patent 5,075,874 (*Steeves et al.*). As mentioned above, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26, 31, 36, 65, and 66 in terms that more clearly define what he regards as his invention. Applicant submits that these amended independent claims and new independent claims 67 and 74, together with the remaining claims dependent therefrom, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

Generally, to control an output style of print data in a printer, the print data is converted into print data that is interpretable by the printer (i.e., page description language). It is possible to make the output style, obtainable in the printer, identical to that

which is confirmed in an information processing apparatus by simply using print data that is interpretable by the printer. As discussed in detail in the specification, in some cases, a problem exists in which the printer and the information processing apparatus have different output styles, even if print data that is interpretable by the printer is used. The present invention relates to document processing, and in particular to the printing of print data using a printer that is able to control the output style of the print data, and provides a solution to this problem.

An aspect of the present invention set forth in claim 1, which has been amended to include the essential subject matter of canceled claims 41 and 42, is an information processing apparatus that transfers print data to a printer. The apparatus includes determining means and control means. The determining means determine whether the print data is to be transferred to the printer in a first mode or in a second mode. The control means causes the apparatus to convert the print data into bit map data and to transfer the converted bit map data to the printer when the determining means determines that the print data is to be transferred in the first mode, and to convert the print data into print data which can be interpreted by the printer and to transfer the converted data to the printer when the determining means determines that the print data is to be transferred in the second mode. The converted data in the second mode includes information indicative of a data type. Also, the first mode is a mode in which the apparatus controls an output style of the print data and the second mode is a mode in which the printer controls an output style of the print data.

An important feature of claim 1 is that the determining means determines whether print data is to be transferred to the printer in a first mode or in a second mode, where the first mode is a mode in which the apparatus controls an output style of the print data and the second mode is a mode in which the printer controls an output style of the print data. That is, the first mode is a mode in which the apparatus controls the output style of print data, and the second mode is a mode in which the printer controls the output style. Thus, when it is desired to make the output style obtainable in the printer identical to that confirmed in the information processing apparatus, the output style is controlled in the apparatus (the first mode), and otherwise the output style is controlled in the printer (the second mode).

Hideki et al. relates to a printer which has a character generator and converts a character code, received from a host computer, into a character dot pattern using the character generator and prints the pattern. The Office Action cites *Hideki et al.* as teaching that a first mode or a second mode are modes in which an apparatus controls an output style of the print data. However, nothing has been found, or pointed out, in *Hideki et al.* that would teach or suggest a printer that is able to control the output style of print data. *Hideki et al.* merely discusses that, although printers generally have a character generator, it is impossible to draw rules or freely change character-character pitches in the printers. *Hideki et al.* takes into consideration only printers that cannot control the output style.

Specifically, *Hideki et al.* does not address the problem in which, in some cases, a printer and an information processing apparatus have different output styles, even if print data that is interpretable by the printer is used. Accordingly, Applicant submits that *Hideki et al.*

does not teach or suggest an information processing apparatus that includes “determining means for determining whether print data is to be transferred to the printer in a first mode or in a second mode,” wherein “the first mode is a mode in which said apparatus controls an output style of the print data and the second mode is a mode in which the printer controls an output style of the print data,” as recited in claim 1.

Applicant submits that for at least the above reason, claim 1 is clearly patentable over *Hideki et al.*

Nothing has been found in *Steeves et al.*, which relates to a communications interface for a computer-output printer, that would remedy the deficiencies of *Hideki et al.* Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited art.

Independent claims 11, 21, 31, and 65 are method, memory medium, program product, and system claims, respectively, corresponding to apparatus claim 1, and are believed to be patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with claim 1.

Independent claims 6, 16, 26, 36, and 66 include a similar feature of determining whether print data is to be transferred to the printer in a first mode or in a second mode, wherein the first mode is a mode in which the apparatus controls an output style of the print data and the second mode is a mode in which the printer controls an output style of the print data, as that discussed above in connection with claim 1. Accordingly, claims 6, 16, 26, 36, and 66 also are believed to be patentable for at least reasons substantially similar to those discussed above in connection with claim 1.

New independent claims 67 and 74 are based on claims 1 and 6, respectively, and include the feature that print data, converted into bit map data, is transferred to a printer in the form of a page description language (the first mode). By virtue of this feature, the output style obtainable in the printer is made identical to that confirmed in an information processing apparatus.

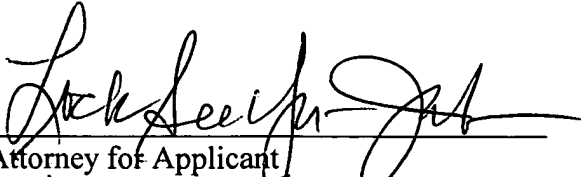
Applicant submits that *Hideki et al.* and *Steeves et al.*, taken separately or in any permissible combination, fail to teach or suggest the features of claims 67 and 74. Accordingly, Applicant further submits that claims 67 and 74 are clearly patentable over *Hideki et al.* or *Steeves et al.*, or any permissible combination thereof, if any.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and therefore are believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration or reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and passage to issue of the present reissue application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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